

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 61st LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Call to Order: Chairman Jon C. Sesso, on March 11, 2009 at 8:00
A.M., in Room 102 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Jon C. Sesso, Chairman (D)
Rep. Duane Ankney (R)
Rep. Dennis Getz (D)
Rep. Bill E. Glaser (R)
Rep. Ray Hawk (R)
Rep. Teresa K. Henry (D)
Rep. Cynthia Hiner (D)
Rep. Roy Hollandsworth (R)
Rep. Galen Hollenbaugh (D)
Rep. Llew Jones (R)
Rep. Dave Kasten (R)
Rep. Bill McChesney (D)
Rep. Walter McNutt (R)
Rep. Robert Mehlhoff (D)
Rep. Penny Morgan (R)
Rep. Carolyn Pease-Lopez (D)
Rep. Don Roberts (R)
Rep. Cheryl Steenson (D)
Rep. Dan Villa (D)

Members Excused: Rep. Bill Nooney (R)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Jon Moe, Legislative Branch
Samuel Speerschneider, Committee Secretary

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 15, 3/5/2009; HB 154, 3/5/2009;
SB 224, 3/5/2009; HB 635, 3/5/2009;
HB 619, 3/5/2009; HB 586, 3/5/2009;
HB 550, 3/5/2009; HB 612, 3/5/2009;
SB 216, 3/5/2009

Executive Action: HB 632, HB 638, HB 635, SB 216

00:00:02 Chairman Sesso
00:01:09 Jon Moe, Legislative Fiscal Division
00:02:02 Chairman Sesso

HEARING ON HB 154

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:05:52 Rep. Bob Bergren (D), HD 33, opened the hearing on
HB 154, Make fire suppression fund permanent, fund and
revise use.

[EXHIBIT \(aph54a01\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony:

00:08:21 Mary Sexton, Director, Department of Natural Resources
and Conservation

[EXHIBIT \(aph54a02\)](#)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:16:11 Rep. Roberts
00:16:38 Ms. Sexton
00:17:21 Rep. Bergren
00:18:00 Chairman Sesso

Closing by Sponsor:

00:19:30 Rep. Bergren

HEARING ON SB 216

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:20:30 Sen. Jesse Laslovich (D), SD 43, opened the hearing on SB 216, Revise laws on school district interlocal agreements and on calculating ANB.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:24:46 Marco Ferro, MEA-MFT

00:25:41 Bob Vogel, Montana School Board Association

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

00:26:31 Madeline Quinlan, Chief of Staff, Office of Public Instruction

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:27:11 Rep. Morgan

00:27:22 Ms. Quinlan

00:27:48 Rep. Morgan

00:28:04 Ms. Quinlan

00:28:29 Sen. Laslovich

00:28:54 Chairman Sesso

00:29:33 Sen. Laslovich

Closing by Sponsor:

00:30:16 Sen. Laslovich

HEARING ON HB 635

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:31:38 Rep. Bill McChesney (D), HD 40, opened the hearing on HB 635, Repeal Montana equity capital investment act.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:32:36 Robert Minto, Montana Capital Investment Board

[EXHIBIT](#)(aph54a03)

00:37:15 Larry Anderson, Board Member, Montana Equity Capital

00:39:44 Andy Poole, Department of Commerce
[EXHIBIT](#)(aph54a04)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

00:40:32 Rep. McChesney

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 632

00:41:07 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Hollenbaugh moved that **HB 632 BE TABLED**. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Rep. Mehlhoff and Rep. Nooney voted by proxy.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 638

00:41:46 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Jones moved that **HB 638 BE TABLED**. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Rep. Mehlhoff and Rep. Nooney voted by proxy.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 635

00:42:24 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Hiner moved that **HB 635 DO PASS**. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Rep. Mehlhoff and Rep. Nooney voted by proxy.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 216

00:43:13 **Motion:** Rep. Hiner moved that **SB 216 BE CONCURRED IN**.

Discussion:

00:43:41 Rep. Kasten
00:44:08 Chairman Sesso
00:44:28 Rep. Morgan
00:45:19 Chairman Sesso

00:45:33 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Rep. Mehlhoff and Rep. Nooney voted by proxy. Rep. Welborn will carry the bill.

HEARING ON SB 224

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:46:38 Sen. Roy Brown (R), SD 25, opened the hearing on
SB 224, Transfer \$30 million from general fund to work
comp old fund.

EXHIBIT(aph54a05)

Proponents' Testimony:

00:56:58 Jon Bennion, Montana Chamber of Commerce

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

00:59:52 Nancy Butler, General Counsel, Montana State Fund

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:00:24 Rep. Glaser

01:00:39 Sen. Brown

01:00:59 Chairman Sesso

01:01:54 Sen. Brown

Closing by Sponsor:

01:02:17 Sen. Brown

HEARING ON HB 586

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:03:32 Rep. Bill Beck (R), HD 6, opened the hearing on HB 586,
Deposit a portion of oil and gas taxes in older
Montanan's trust fund.

Proponents' Testimony:

01:05:50 Wally Daeley, Montana Silver Head Legislators (MSHL)

01:09:51 John Gazzero, MSHL

EXHIBIT(aph54a06)

01:11:19 Claudia Clifford, Advocacy Director, AARP Montana

01:12:29 Linda Stall, Montana Area Agencies on Aging

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:13:14 Rep. Getz
01:13:40 Ms. Clifford
01:13:58 Rep. Getz
01:14:05 Ms. Clifford
01:14:25 Rep. Hollandsworth
01:14:47 Rep. Beck

Closing by Sponsor:

01:15:04 Rep. Beck

01:16:18 Chairman Sesso
01:16:39 Rep. Villa
01:17:11 Chairman Sesso

HEARING ON HB 612

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:17:52 Rep. Bill Beck (R), HD 6, opened the hearing on HB 612,
Revise laws relating to mental health commitment and
treatment.

Proponents' Testimony:

01:18:58 Mitzy Anderson, National Alliance on Mental Illness
(NAMI)

EXHIBIT(aph54a07)

01:28:48 Gary Mihelish, President, NAMI

EXHIBIT(aph54a08)

01:34:45 Clinton Schrator, Spokesman, NAMI
01:40:59 Winifred Stoli, Founding Member, NAMI
01:44:25 Matt Kuntz, Executive Director, NAMI
01:49:22 Donald Harr, Psychiatrist

EXHIBIT(aph54a09)

Opponents' Testimony:

01:55:21 Anita Roessmann, Staff Attorney, Disability Rights
Montana

EXHIBIT(aph54a10)

02:06:51 Nanette Gilbertson, Montana County Attorneys
Association

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

02:08:31 Rep. Henry
02:10:14 Ms. Roessmann
02:11:12 Rep. Henry
02:11:40 Ms. Anderson
02:13:47 Rep. Roberts
02:14:29 Dr. Harr
02:15:18 Rep. Roberts
02:15:51 Dr. Harr

Closing by Sponsor:

02:16:34 Rep. Beck

HEARING ON HB 15

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

02:39:42 Rep. Dan Villa (D), HD 86, opened the hearing on HB 15,
Fund K-12 education.

Proponents' Testimony:

02:40:16 Madeline Quinlan, Office of Public Instruction
02:40:53 Steve Malloy, Executive Director, Montana Board of
Public Education
02:41:18 Jan Lombardi, Education Advisory, Governor's Office
02:41:51 Bob Vogel, School Administrators of Montana, Rural
Education Association
02:43:11 Terry Minow, MEA-MFT
02:43:36 Sara Maneval, Anaconda High School
02:44:16 Tom Altmaier, Volunteer Advocate, Montana Retired
Educators Association

EXHIBIT(aph54a11)

02:45:01 Jazmine Warner, Anaconda High School
02:45:52 Michael O'Neal, self

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

02:46:13 Nancy Hall, Senior Analyst, Office of Budget and
Program Planning

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

02:46:26 Rep. Morgan
02:46:54 Mr. Vogel
02:47:49 Rep. Morgan
02:48:33 Mr. Vogel

Closing by Sponsor:

02:49:03 Rep. Villa

HEARING ON HB 619

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

02:49:59 Rep. Mike Jopek (D), HD 4, opened the hearing on
HB 619, Sudan divestment act.

Proponents' Testimony:

02:52:35 Josh Schott, Whitefish High School Anti-Genocide
Coalition
03:04:46 Sandra Schott, Save Darfur

Opponents' Testimony:

03:06:07 Carroll South, Executive Director, Montana Board of
Investments
03:18:21 Scott Miller, Attorney
03:26:02 David Senn, Executive Director, Teachers Retirement
System

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

03:27:36 Rep. Jopek

HEARING ON HB 550

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

03:30:13 Rep. Diane Sands (D), HD 95, opened the hearing on
HB 550, Increase funding for Indian education for all.

EXHIBIT (aph54a12)

Proponents' Testimony:

03:34:03 Kathleen Brown, Teacher

EXHIBIT (aph54a13)

03:34:50 Nicki Wordy, Librarian

03:40:17 Jonell Morris, Student

03:40:47 Brittany Belgarde, Student

03:41:32 Scott Evans, Teacher, Helena High School

03:44:07 Joseph Anderson, self

03:47:00 Linda Gryczan, Montana Women's Lobby

03:48:00 Madeline Quinlan, Office of Public Instruction

03:51:15 JC Weingartner, MEA-MFT

03:51:54 Bob Vogel, Montana School Board Association

03:52:16 James Steele, Jr., Chairman, Tribal Council

03:54:00 Terry Kendrick, Montana Indian Education Association

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

03:54:40 Rep. Steenson

03:55:06 Rep. Sands

Closing by Sponsor:

03:55:39 Rep. Sands

ADJOURNMENT

03:58:18 Adjournment: 12:00 P.M.

Samuel Speerschneider, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT ([aph54aad.pdf](#))